

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Accessibility
October 20, 2015, 4:00-6:00 pm
City Hall, Room 12

MINUTES

Members Present: Ron Redmond, Sam Handy, Ralph Montefusco, Michael Watson, Elaine Zimmerman, Emma Allen, Tom Charbonneau

Members Absent: Ben Johnson, Cleary Buckley, Ned Holt, Shelly Waterman

Others Present: Kesha Ram, Nate Besio, Tim Johnson, Ted Wimpey

The meeting commenced at 4:05 pm.

Public Forum and Introductions

The meeting started with announcements and updates from the committee.

Parks is having a Halloween Howl on October 25 that includes an accessible Haunted Walk. Emma will spread the word and ensure an accessibility designee is listed on future materials.

Meetings are happening between community members and City officials on street harassment, including disability-related taunts and threatening behavior. Discussion is coalescing around a PSA and possible additional education and outreach.

Private parking issues were raised again based on a specific complaint. Tom talked to the City Attorney's Office and shared that private ADA complaints are a Human Rights Commission and judicial matter.

Burlington Fair Housing Committee, CVOEO, Tim Johnson & Ted Wimpey

The Fair Housing Committee (FHC) is federally required to "affirmatively further fair housing" when federal dollars are being used. The FHC will address all fair housing issues, including disability-related protections. The next meeting is October 30 from 2-3:30 in City Hall, Conference Room 12. The FHC will include Champlain Housing Trust, Legal Aid, and others – voices of New Americans and people with disabilities are being sought currently.

Next Steps

A request was made to invite Jon Killacky from the Flynn Performing Arts Center to discuss accessibility and visual impairment accommodations. A request was also made to invite the new CEDO Assistant Director for Economic Development if they have been hired.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.